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Superior Public Library

Twenty-sixth Annual Report

For the Year Ending June the Thirtieth
Nineteen Hundred and Fifteen

Superior Public Library

Twenty-sixth Annual Report

For the Year Ending June the Thirtieth
Nineteen Hundred and Fifteen

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

C. H. Sunderland, President 1916
Mrs. H. H. Rogers, Vice-President 1918
N. H. Rasmussen, Secretary 1917
Mrs. Geo. Cooper 1918
Hiram Hayes 1917
W. J. Leader 1916
N. J. Lockrem 1916
J. M. Szarkowski 1918
Louis Williams 1917
W. E. Maddock, Superintendent of Schools .....ex officio member

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Book Committee .....Mrs. H. H. Rogers, Messrs. Hayes, Maddock
Room Committee .....Messrs. Rasmussen, Lockrem, Williams
Finance Committee .....Messrs. Leader, Szarkowski, Mrs. Cooper

LIBRARY STAFF

Blanch L. Unterkircher ..... Librarian
M. Augusta Savage ..... Assistant Librarian
Florence Farnham ..... Assistant Librarian
Helen Stelle ..... Assistant Librarian
Dorothea Heins ..... Assistant Librarian
Gladys Andrews ..... Assistant Librarian
Mrs. Alice Thomas ..... Assistant Librarian

APPRENTICE

Edna Roeseler

JANITOR

G. H. Giffin

MESSENGER

Carl Armstrong

STATIONS

East End ..... F. D. Priest's Drug Store
South Superior ..... Mrs. N. Rasmussen's Shoe Store
Billings Park ..... A. A. Campbell's Drug Store
Itasca ..... James Beggs, Post Office

To The Mayor and Common Council of the City of Superior:

Pursuant to the Statutes, the Board of Directors of the Superior Public Library submit herewith the annual report of said library for the year ending June 30, 1915.

The financial statement and report of the Librarian herewith transmitted contain the information necessary to keep you thoroughly advised of the measures taken to serve the Public, who own and maintain this institution of popular education. It is the purpose of this Library to co-operate in forwarding every civic movement and it is sincerely hoped every citizen will realize that this institution is maintained for his own individual benefit.

RESOURCES

Cash on hand (per annual report) July 1, 1914	$15,105.05
Fines collected during the year	385.27
Rent of books during the year	45.00
Tax levy for 1914	9,500.00
Interest on bank balance	329.27
Total	$25,364.59

DISBURSEMENTS.

Books purchased	$ 3,224.84
Subscriptions to periodicals	420.80
Binding and rebinding old books	879.20
Salaries, Library Force	6,599.50
Janitor's salary	1,062.00
Fuel	405.08
Water and Light	267.57
Permanent improvements including vault	761.50
Stationary and supplies	416.39
Printing	133.75
Express, freight, drayage and trains	143.11
Furniture & fixtures	310.79
Insurance	25.00
Other expenses, including postage and messenger service	201.22
Balance (cash on hand)	10,513.84
Total	$25,364.59

BOOKS.

No. of accessioned books in the Library, July 1, 1914	26,924
Books added during the year	3,464
Withdrawals	988
No. of accessioned books in the Library (See Appendix "A")	29,400
Books circulated during the year, excluding pictures and clippings (See Appendix "C")	128,376
U. S. pamphlets added during the year	1,584
U. S. Public Documents added during the year	243

The Library now contains 3743 bound volumes and 9503 pamphlets in the U. S. Document collection. These are catalogued but not accessioned.

The terms of office of the following directors expire at this date: Mrs. Harrie Rogers, Mrs. George Cooper and Mr. J. M. Szarkowski.

The Board earnestly invites your Honorable Body to again visit the Library, both individually and collectively, and note its

workings, and would also invite suggestions with a view to making the Library more useful.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUPERIOR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

By C. H. SUNDERLAND,
President.

Superior, Wisconsin, June 30, 1915.

SUPERIOR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Annual Report of the Librarian.

1914-1915.

To the Board of Directors of the Superior Public Library,
Superior, Wisconsin.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In laying before you the twenty-sixth annual report of the work of the Library for the year ending June 30, 1915, I sincerely hope the record will be satisfactory to you, and that the continually increasing use of the library by the people, as indicated by this report, will be a source of gratification to you.

The increase of circulation for the year proves that the Library is the free and unrestricted possession of all who come to it; the reader seeking diversion, the reader in pursuit of information, the leisurely, the student, the scholar, the artizan and the child, are led to feel alike that the Library is theirs.

Next to the Public Schools, the Public Library is the strongest factor in popular education. While we do not do the intensive educational work which the schools are doing, we are reaching double the number of people and carry on the work long after the school age has passed. We are helping the boy and girl who must leave school, the men and women who never had a chance for an education, the foreigners who are using the Library more and more every day, to fit themselves for a place in American life.

THE STAFF

This year the Library has lost only one assistant, Miss Adele Burnham. Miss Helen Stelle was elected to fill the position.

Miss Edna Roeseler took the apprentice course during the winter months, and will enter the Wisconsin Library School in September.

Miss Grace Dill entered as an apprentice in May.

In February, we had Miss Bergljot Gundersen for a months' practice work. In March, Miss Loretta Von Syburg was assigned us also at the request of the Wisconsin Library School.

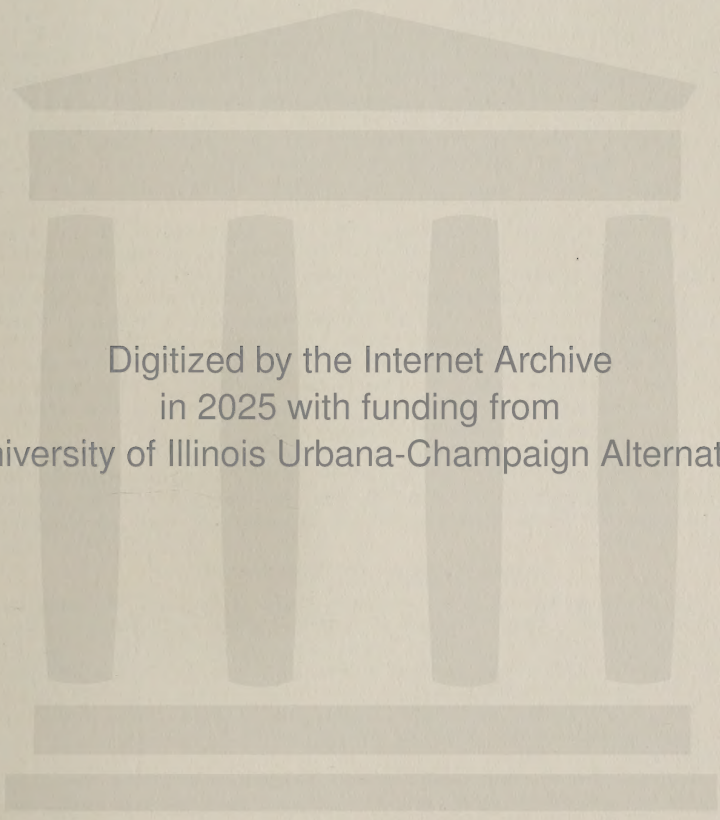
LIBRARY MEETINGS.

Miss Unterkircher, the Librarian, and assistants attended the sessions of the Northeastern Minnesota Library Association, held in Duluth in February.

GIFTS.

In December 1914, Mr. Victor Linley presented to the Library, a beautiful oil painting, "Coast of Norway," by Svend Svendson. Done in oil and framed in old gold, its brilliant coloring makes it a striking addition to the art collection.

The Library was also the recipient of a historic silk flag. It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https://archive.org/details/annualreport2526supe

notes and the printed lists, some aggressive schemes were tried in Superior this year.

It was decided to prepare a series of store exhibits. Some of the leading merchants were interviewed by the Librarian, and gladly consented to loan the use of their windows for a week or more. The following book exhibits were prepared and shown in the downtown district: Furnishing the home in good taste, Grand Rapids Furniture Co. The garden, Superior Floral Co., and Miss O'Sullivan; Cook books, with special posters and books illustrative of the wisest purchase and preparation of cuts of meat, at the A. Metzger meat shop. Books, clippings, pamphlets and posters were used in window trimming.

The annual book display at the Douglas County Fair drew the interest of many people in October. The Grand Rapids Furniture Co. consented to furnish a Library Reading Room. Pertinent posters were carefully hung on the walls and served to call attention to the bookcases filled with the exhibits. The chief collections during the week related to: The Farmer, Garden books, Farm animals, House building and furnishing, The baby, Crochet books, Advertising, Railroad books, and Children's books. Library lists were freely distributed to visitors.

The Superior Kindergarten Club this year presented an elaborate pageant. It was thought that this offered an unusual opportunity for the display of Library helps for teachers and parents. Arrangement was accordingly made with the directors for the establishment of display tables at the entrance to the pageant. Three book collections with posters were sent from the Library. The first was headed, "The Kindergarten"; the second, "Mother Play"; the third, "Picture Books." The latter consisted of the more expensive children's books, English and foreign, which the Library has made a special feature this year.

The chief element in any advertising campaign is the focussing of attention. While no apparent gains were immediately noticeable in circulation, the Library has become to a greater degree, a cynosure for those seeking help in practical as well as scholarly fields of interest.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

In every phase of the reference work, a decided increase has been noticeable. The residents of Superior have realized more than ever the aid they may receive from the Library, as has been evidenced by the variety of questions that have come to the Librarian.

The reference department of the Library contains at the end of the year 3261 books and 2363 bound periodicals. The collection has been increased this year by the addition of 105 books and 165 periodicals.

Among the most valuable of the reference books is the Great Debates in American History. This set of ten volumes with several books on the European war, and the new volumes of the Debaters hand book series, have added greatly to the debate material.

The most important debates for which the Library has furnished material, were on the following subjects: Increase of the U. S. army and navy; Coast defense; Philippine independence; Income tax and Merchant marine.

More teachers have taken advantage of the special reference plan. This plan is to place upon a shelf the books required for

outside reading. The shelf is then labeled with the teacher's name and their pupils have free access to it. This work is carried on with both Normal and High School teachers.

The material in the picture and clipping file has been greatly increased. The accumulation of old magazines and miscellaneous material in the store room was sorted and the valuable material mounted for the file.

Lists on the following subjects have been compiled; Automobiles, Domestic science, Music and musicians, Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Plays and games for school use, Socialism, Pictures on travel and American History, Pamphlet material on the European war, and Business topics.

The Superior Woman's club has decided to study along two lines next year, Biography of famous living American women and Immigration in the U. S. Books and magazine articles on these subjects have been listed. Mimeographed copies of this list will be distributed to the club members.

CATALOG DEPARTMENT.

Volumes Catalogued

Circulating and reference	2146
Legler collection	49
Total	2195

Pamphlets

Legler collection	177
Miscellaneous	1066
Total	1243
Catalog cards made	5560
Shelf list cards made	2321

The figures listed above do not include additions to the government document collection. Of these, 243 bound volumes and 1584 pamphlets have been catalogued, making our total number 3743 bound volumes and 9503 pamphlets.

ACCESSIONS

There were, at the beginning of the year, 26,924 volumes in the Library, exclusive of Public Documents. During the year, 1876 volumes have been added to the adult shelves, 1269 to the juvenile shelves, and 319 volumes to the reference collection. The total number of additions is 3464. The withdrawals for the year number 988. The total number of volumes in the Library at the end of the year numbers 29,400, a net gain of 2476 over the previous year.

Following are some of the important additions in the adult department:

Alexinsky—Modern Russia.
Bantock—One hundred folk songs of all nations.
Buckman—Glory of Belgium.
Crowell & Murray—Iron ores of Lake Superior.
Dickinson—German masters of art.
Emerson—Journals 9v.
Geikie—Mountains.
Halsey—Hand book for machine designers and draftsmen.
Hawley—Oriental rugs: antique and modern.
James—Indian blankets and their makers.

Maude—Life of Tolstoy.
Mawson—Home of the blizzard 2v.
Monypenny—Life of Benjamin Disraeli 3v.
Variorum Shakespeare 17v.

CIRCULATION

For the year 1914-1915, there were loaned from the Main Library and Stations 151,691 books. Of this number 92,588 books circulated from the adult department, 59,103 from the juvenile department. A total increase of 36,335 volumes over the previous year may be noted.

Of the total circulation, 51 per cent was non-fiction.

The following table shows the fiction and non-fiction circulation for the past ten years:

	Fiction	Non-Fiction	Total
1906	43,000	19,307	62,307
1907	49,410	21,641	71,051
1908	61,798	26,485	88,283
1909	71,666	25,511	97,177
1910	67,967	31,203	99,170
1911	65,614	31,423	97,037
1912	72,417	37,141	109,558
1913	69,654	34,843	104,497
1914	69,181	46,175	115,356
1915	75,401	76,290	151,691

The demands of the alien population of Superior have been insistent during the past year. The foreign collections include Norwegian, Swedish, German, Finnish, Yiddish and Polish books. 1679 Norwegian books, 537 Swedish, 271 German, 47 Finnish, 288 Yiddish and 18 Polish books, circulated. The total number of foreign books loaned was 2840, an increase of 1281 over the previous year. The Library accessions have been supplemented by Traveling Libraries from the Wisconsin Free Library Commission.

Number of days Library was open for circulation 301
Average daily circulation 341
Largest daily circulation 781
Smallest daily circulation 104
Circulation per capita 3.3
Circulation by months:

	Juvenile	Adult	Total
July	2,156	6,094	8,250
August	1,912	5,513	7,245
September	2,060	6,061	8,121
October	3,722	6,959	10,681
November	4,142	7,613	11,755
December	3,695	7,345	11,040
January	3,632	9,286	12,918
February	3,649	8,082	11,731
March	4,024	9,437	13,461
April	4,500	8,976	13,476
May	3,747	9,025	12,772
June	3,187	7,690	11,147
Totals	40,426	92,351	132,777*

*Includes Main Library, Stations A, B, C, E, and Carpenter.

LIBRARY STATIONS.

The changes in our Library extension work have been several.

It was with deep regret, that we learned that the Merrell pharmacy at East Superior would no longer house our books and that we would be forced to seek new quarters. Fortunately, the F. Priest Drug Store agreed to take charge of Station A, and it has been located there since March 1, 1915.

Aside from the three regular stations, A, B, and C, we have placed a collection of books in the Reading Room of the Onoway Club. This Reading Room is open to the Public on Monday's, Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:30 to 4:30 and from 7:30 to 9 P. M. The books are loaned out by the person in charge.

Deposits have been established in the linen room of the Hotel Superior, in the Duluth Street Railway car house on 4th and Ogden Avenues and in Fire Stations Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 6. These are intended for the employees only.

The books from Fire Station No. 1 were returned to the Main Library, because of lack of accommodation.

A Library Station was organized in Itasca, August 29, 1914, in the James Beggs store. Judging by the number of books circulated and the applications for cards, Itasca is a fertile field for the cultivation of the reading habit. In December we were informed that they could no longer afford to carry on the work without remuneration. It was accordingly abandoned, and the community is for the second time without Free Library books.

The Yale Laundry has given up its Library for the time being, owing to extensive remodeling of the office.

Stations A, B, and C, all show a decrease in circulation. There are two reasons for this. First, we send more book titles to the Stations than we add to the Main Library, necessitating the sending of books which they have already had. Secondly, we have discouraged the patronage of children under fourteen years of age because of duplicate collections in the public schools.

Deposit Stations.

Non-fiction	70
Fiction	215
Total	285

Special efforts have this year been made to bring the Library Stations to the notice of the people. With this end in view, book exhibits were placed in the windows at the Campbell and Merrell pharmacies. Attractive bulletins and signs called attention to the books displayed, and the result was that an unusually large number of applicants were registered. Also there was a very noticeable increase in the non-fiction circulation. It is hoped that this phase of Library advertising may be enlarged upon the coming year.

The manager of the Hotel Superior placed printed slips in the pay envelopes of the employees, calling attention to the collection of books in the linen room.

REGISTRATION.

The card system of registration was adopted February 1st.

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
No. of borrowers at beginning of the year	6,362	5,743	12,105
No. of borrowers registered during year	1,420	992	2,412
Cards withdrawn during the year	983	713	1,696
Total borrowers at end of year	6,799	6,022	12,821

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

The total circulation of the juvenile department of the Library for the year 1914-1915 is 59,103. Of this number, the main children's room circulated 3,562 books, the schools 18,629, and the Carpenter branch 3,344. The remaining circulation (3568) was from the various stations where the distribution of children's books is not the principle object.

Statistical reports have little true value unless relatively applied. 41 per cent of the Library borrowers are children. These borrowers represent every nationality in our city's population, and every school, public and parochial, within the city limits.

In the different branches of the juvenile work, there have been many indications of an encouraging year. The story hour for the year has been interesting. Beginning the first week of October and extending through the third week of June, the attendance was 3652, an increase of 316 over the preceding year. This attendance plus those at the Carpenter branch, the school and the various social centers make a total attendance of 11,133. No particular outline of stories was followed, but the selection of stories was confined to those suitable to the ages 5 to 12 years. There were three bird talks accompanied by lantern slides, by Mr. T. J. McCarthy. These were much enjoyed by the children and were very instructive.

In addition to the regular Friday afternoon story hour at the Library, stories were told from time to time at various schools, social centers, churches and clubs, making fifteen places, and with a total attendance of 2145. All opportunities to either tell stories or explain the work of the Library are welcomed. By this means, children are reached who otherwise would have no knowledge of the Library and its resources.

Publicity work of various sorts has been tried from time to time. This consisted chiefly of the bulletins advertising juvenile literature, which accompanied the Library exhibits in the local stores, fairs, etc. Another method was the making of lists,—for example, Books suitable for summer reading for boys and girls, Adventure stories, Animal and Nature stories, Indian stories, Sequels and sequences, Christmas books and Hero books.

Several exhibits have been held at the Library. One at Christmas showed expensive and inexpensive gift books, foreign picture books, and new and attractive editions of children books.

An electrically lighted tree added to the interest of the Children's room at Christmas time, and drew especial attention to the book exhibit.

A beginning was made in Intermediate work this winter. Space was reserved for books suitable for older boys and girls. The collection includes chiefly books of fiction, travel, biography, handicraft. Many of these have proven very popular. We hope the Intermediate department will become a permanent and useful means of finding the reading tastes of those about to make use of the adult book shelves.

SCHOOLS

The circulation record for the books placed by the Library in the schools is most encouraging. In all but two of the nine schools, there was an increase. Not only have we gained what was lost during the two years 1912-1914, but we have exceeded all preceding records. The total circulation was 18,629, 6,542 increase. Follow-

ing is a report by school showing the relative circulation in each instance.

	1912–13	1913–14	1914–15
BRYANT	2,201	2,467	3,022
COOPER	2,214	3,371	5,742
DEWEY	1,768	1,405	2,599
FRANKLIN	435	937	1,584
HOWE	1,489	1,500	2,611
LINCOLN	1,194	1,388	1,110
WEBSTER	763	987	627
WISCONSIN POINT	13	33	44
HIGH SCHOOL	....	....	1,290
TOTAL	10,077	12,087	18,629

Approximately, 3773 books were sent to the schools, 62 teachers receiving them. Many of these books had to be supplied from the main children's room, the school duplicate collection proving inadequate to the demands of the teachers. In the majority of cases, the efforts of the Library have been met with willingness and cooperation on the part of the teachers, but even so many Library books were not used as they should be. Allowing one circulation day per week in the school-room, each book should circulate twenty times per term. Many books have this circulation, but many others, equally good, stand on the shelves for lack of a little pushing on the part af the teacher.

Every room in each school was visited during September and October for the purpose of conferring with the teachers concerning their book collections, and again during January and February for the purpose of counting the circulation and arranging for exchanges where desired.

CARPENTER

The circulation increase of 217 at the Carpenter branch is particularly gratifying, as there was a decided decrease during the year 1913-1914.

The story hour attendance at the branch reached a total of 5336, an increase of 2,215 over the preceding year. Great interest was shown in the stories and the second group of older children was often as large as the first one comprised of children of the lower grades. The Normal students were of great help in managing these large groups of children. Their aid, during the absence of the children's librarian, when they took entire charge of the story hour, was especially appreciated.

MENDING AND BINDING

2416 books were mended during the year. 1735 volumes were handled last year, making a total increase of 681 for 1914-1915.

Bindery statistics for 1914-1915.

Books	2,137
Magazines	237
Superior Telegram	7
Total	2,387

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Cordial thanks are due the various Newspapers of the city for their never failing generosity and courtesy in publishing lists of

APPENDIX "C"

CIRCULATION

	Main Library		Stations		Schools	Carpenter		Total
	Ad.	Juv.	Ad.	Juv.	Juv.	Ad.	Juv.	
Gener'l works	46	.....	.....	....	.....	..	....	46
Periodicals	313	85	1	1	.....	..	....	400
Philosophy	891	48	5	....	7	..	....	951
Religion	784	346	3	1	209	..	22	1,365
Sociology and	.....	.....	.....	....	.. ..	..	....	.....
Fairy tales	2,002	5,692	17	16	3,018	..	922	11,667
Philology	346	.....	8	....	.....	..	....	354
Nat. Science	847	1,064	21	13	1,041	..	89	3,075
Useful Arts	2,509	475	78	36	371	..	16	3,485
Fine Arts	2,110	1,128	88	19	353	..	12	3,710
Literature	2,545	3,810	23	11	1,309	..	1,464	9,162
History	1,206	1,649	20	2	1,596	..	158	4,631
Travel	862	1,147	63	9	1,200	..	65	3,346
Biography	824	1,076	68	7	797	..	99	2,871
Fiction	31,904	14,572	16,189	3,453	8,728	58	497	75,401
Norwegian	1,669	.....	10	....	.....	..	....	1,679
Swedish	533	.....	4	....	.....	..	....	537
German	271	.....	.....	....	.....	..	....	271
Finnish	47	.....	.....	....	.....	..	....	47
Yiddish	288	.....	.....	....	.....	..	....	288
Polish	18	.....	.....	....	.....	..	....	18
Current periodicals	3,798	34	1,059	....	.....	..	....	4,891
Clippings	693	.....	.....	....	.....	..	....	693
Pictures	20,186	2,436	.....	....	.....	..	....	22,622
Pamphlets	168	.....	.....	....	.....	..	....	168
Maps	13	.....	.....	....	.....	..	....	13
Total	74,873	33,562	17,657	3,568	18,629	58	3,344	151,691

APPENDIX "D"

STATION CIRCULATION.

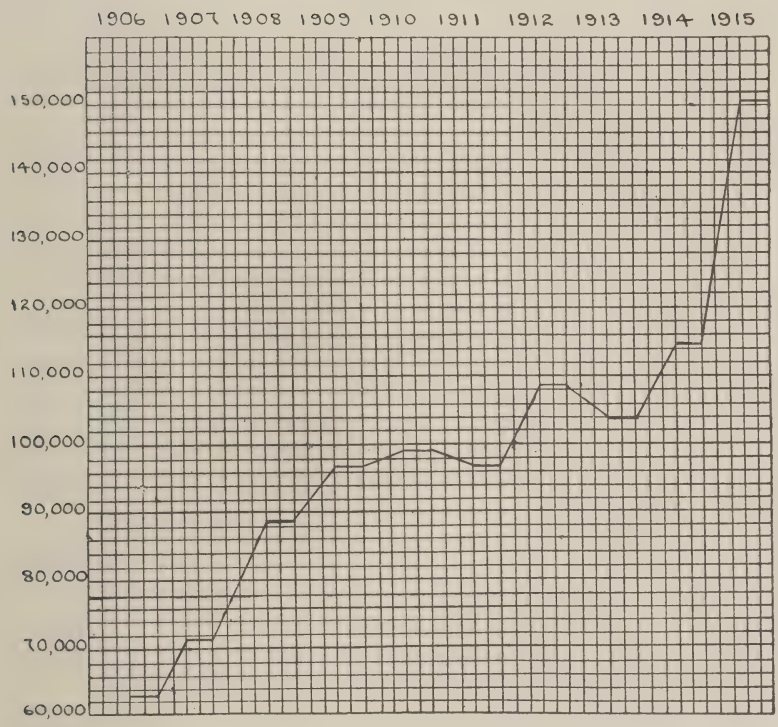
	A	B	C	Fire Sta.	Carpenter	Total
Gen'l works	....	....	....	...	.....	.....
Periodicals	....	....	1	...	.....	1
	*1	....	....	...	.....	*1
Philosophy	1	....	4	...	.....	5
Religion	....	....	3	...	.....	3
	....	....	....	*1	*22	*23
Sociology	9	....	4	4	.....	17
& Fairy tales	*6	....	*1	*9	*922	*938
Philology	....	....	7	1	.....	8
Nat'l science	14	....	6	1	.....	21
	*3	....	*2	*8	*89	*102
Useful arts	68	....	3	7	.....	78
	*26	....	*2	*7	*16	*52
Fine arts	74	....	10	4	.....	88
	*17	....	*1	*1	*12	*31
Literature	20	....	3	...	.....	23
	*5	....	*5	*1	*1,464	*1,475
History	6	....	11	3	.....	20
	....	....	*1	*1	*158	*160
Travel	57	....	1	5	.....	63
	*3	....	*1	*5	*65	*74
Biography	54	....	....	14	.....	68
	*6	....	....	*1	*99	*106
Fiction	7,392	6,126	2,369	302	58	16,247
	*968	*1,627	*843	*15	*497	*3,438
Norwegian	10	....	....	...	.....	10
Swedish	....	....	2	2	.....	4
Cur. periodicals	628	....	431	...	.....	1,059
Total	8,333	6,126	2,855	343	58	17,715
	*1,035	*1,627	*857	*49	*3,344	*6,912
Grand Total	9,368	7,753	3,712	392	3,402	24,627

*Juvenile Department.

SOME COMPARISONS 1906-1915

Year	Tax	Expenditures Salaries	Books	Volumes in Library	Circulation	Registration
1906	6000	2581.92	1003.85	15966	62307	4749
1907	7000	2869.73	940.28	17103	71051	6529
1908	8000	2651.03	1148.31	18006	88283	5256
1909	9000	3430.01	2216.60	17403	97177	5774
1910	10000	3857.34	2751.41	20809	99170	6292
1911	11500	4005.64	2354.37	21518	97037	6500
1912	12500	5148.50	3125.03	23426	109558	7123
1913	12975	5956.30	3238.72	25809	104497	9983
1914	14000	6327.85	3803.81	26924	115356	12105
1915	9500	6229.50	3224.84	29400	151691	12182

Growth of Circulation in the
Superior Public Library
1906 - 1915.



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PRINTER

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Pursuant to Statutes, the Board of Directors of the Superior Public Library submit herewith, the annual report of said library for the year ending June 30, 1914.

RESOURCES

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Interest on bank balances	312.57
Total	$27,116.92

DISBURSEMENTS

Books purchased	3423.31
Subscription to periodicals	380.50
Binding periodicals and rebinding old books	391.53
Salaries, library force	5427.85
Janitor's salary	900.00
Fuel	406.33
Water and light	147.33
Permanent improvements	74.98
Stationary and supplies	366.66
Printing	86.50
Express, freight, drayage and trains	66.12
Furniture and fixtures	119.70
Insurance	25.00
Other expenses, including postage and messenger service	201.06
Balance (Cash on hand)	15,100.05
Total	$27116.92

BOOKS

No. of accessioned books in the library, July 1913	25,431
Books added during the year	3,048
Withdrawals during the year	1,555
No. of accessioned books in the library (See Appendix "A")	26,924
Books circulated during the year excluding pictures and clippings (Appendix "C")	110,326
United States pamphlets added during the year	1,471
Unied States Public Documents added during the year	271

The library now contains 3499 bound volumes and 8134 pamphlets in the United States document collection. These are catalogued but not accessioned.

During the year, stations have been maintained at South Superior, Billings Park, East End and the Carpenter school.

The terms of office of the following directors expire at this date, Rev. L. K. Grimes, Colonel Hiram Hayes, H. N. Rasmussen.

The library has received during the year 74 volumes as gifts.

The Board earnestly invites your Honorable Body to visit the library, both individually and collectively and note its workings, and would also invite suggestions with a view to making the library more useful.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUPERIOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

By C. H. SUNDERLAND,
President.

Superior, Wisconsin, June 30th, 1914.

SUPERIOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Annual Report of the Librarian

1913-1914

To the Board of Directors of the Superior Public Library,

Superior, Wisconsin.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have the honor to submit to you the 25th annual report of the work of the library for the year ending June 30, 1914.

Again, with the completion of the circle of twelve months we pause to look backward and forward. The report for 1911-1912 was the first report for seven years in which there had been no change in the personnel of the library staff, but in 1912-1913 and this past year, there have been many changes.

October saw the departure of three assistants, Miss Bertha Bergold resigned to accept a position in Madison with Superintendent Cary, Miss Zelia Smith broke our ranks to be married, Miss Rachel Rhodes left us for Portland, Oregon, where she became a member of the staff of the Portland Public Library.

Meanwhile we have secured new members, Miss Florence Farnham of Antigo, Miss Dorethea Heins of Wittenburg, both graduates of the Wisconsin Library School, Miss Adele Burnham of Ann Arbor, Michigan, with training at Albany. The first of August we are to welcome Miss Gladys Andrews, graduate of the Wisconsin Library School, 1914.

All these changes necessarily mean breaks in the work of the library. While they should not influence the interest of the public to any great extent, they make it impossible to carry on aggressive work, but in spite of all the hardships, the entire staff have worked hard and we are making many plans for the coming year to bring the library more than ever before the public eye.

On March 27, 1914, Mrs. Louis Hanitch resigned as Director of the Superior Public Library. Her resignation was accepted with regret, as she has always been very deeply interested in the welfare of the Library.

In April Mrs. George Cooper was selected to fill her place and the staff join the Board in welcoming her as a Director of the Library.

LIBRARY FURNISHINGS.

As our filing case for pictures and clippins became congested, a similar one was ordered to allow us to carry on our work more satisfactorily.

The new fern pedestals have proved very satisfactory.

A new book case for the Rent Collection was installed, which permits of much more satisfactory arrangement of the books in this department.

In May, a paper baler was purchased to care for all waste paper.

A hot water heater was installed in the work room for the use of just the staff.

LIBRARY MEETINGS.

Miss Unterkircher, the librarian, attended the American Library Association meeting which was held at Washington, May 25th-30th. This convention was devoted to the larger and more national aspects of Library work, as to some of the great questions of the

day and their bearing on library work.

The Northeastern Minnesota Educational Association held a round table of the Librarians of Minnesota in Duluth in February, and invited the Librarians of Superior to be present. All members of the staff were given an opportunity to attend at least some part of the meeting.

FIELD WORKERS.

During the month of February we had with us Miss Ethel Hedenburgh, and Miss Alma Jacobus in March, students from the University of Wisconsin Library School, who had been assigned to our Library for their field practice work. We enjoyed having them and think their stay proved to be mutually beneficial.

CATALOGING DEPARTMENT.

The work of this department has included the preparation of 1559 new books, 457 pamphlets and 677 stereoscopic views for the adult shelves, for which 3794 catalog cards and 1395 shelf cards were made. This is exclusive of the Government Document Collection to which 271 bound volumes and 1471 pamphlets have been added.

Two new features of the work this year have been cataloging of the pamphlet collection and the bound periodicals. Neither one of these tasks is by any means completed but a good beginning has been made. Of the pamphlets, the first four classes are finished and arranged in order in pamphlet boxes, these boxes being kept on the shelves with the books on the same subjects, which makes them easily accessible to the public. The work is done in the simplest way possible, by making only a shelf card and one or more subject cards for the catalog, the number depending upon the contents of the pamphlets.

The bound periodicals have never been cataloged although a complete shelf record has been kept. Cards have now been made for a portion of these but there is still a large number not entered in the catalog.

One of the most valuable and helpful additions which has been made to the library this year has been the collection of Underwood Stereoscopic Views. They have been very popular not only with our regular borrowers but especially in the schools where they were in constant use. It is hoped that we may add new ones from time to time.

The revision of the catalog still remains incompleted and very little has been done toward it this year; but with the additional assistanc which we hope to have during the coming year it is expected that much more can be accompilshed.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The work of the reference department has been on the increase this past year. There have been many factors in the growth; the new reference books, the Normal School fire, the increase in up-to-date material and the publicity.

Among the most useful of the new reference books are the Jewish Encyclopedia, The Cyclopedia of Education, Bailey's Encyclopedia of Horticulture, the American Yearbook for 1913, Elliott's Debates on the Federal Constitution, Who's Who for 1914, the A. L. A. Portrait Index and the Debater's Handbook Series.

The Debater's Handbooks are always in demand as they outline

the majority of the questions discussed here in the schools. Some of the important debates have been: Safety First, Equal Suffrage, Presidential Six Year Term, Panama Canal Tolls, Child Labor, Prison Reform, the Recall, and all topics dealing with municipal government and ownership.

Some interesting social questions have come to our attention; some of them problems of the community as Segregation; Public Health and The Clean-up Campaign; some of them problems of the churches as Sunday Observance, and others of a general social interest as the University Extension classes and lectures.

Allied to this latter work has been the compiling of lists. The most important one was on Business Topics covering Advertising, Salesmanship, Money and Banking, Management and Commerce. For this there have been many requests from out of the city and State. A complete list of the magazines and newspapers received by the library was printed and a short classified list on sociological topics was mimeographed. Another popular list was the one prepared at the time of the Poultry Show. The library had an exhibit of books on farming at the show with many attractive posters and the lists were widely distributed. There has been a noticable increase in requests for books on Gardening and other Farm topics.

The largest book exhibit of the year was at the Douglas County Fair in the autumn. The booth, donated to the library, was furnished by the Grand Rapids Furniture Company like a reading room. There were placed there several miscellaneous collections of books and magazines with posters to advertise them. One of the staff was constantly in attendance to encourage th examination of the books and to distribute the book lists. As a result the library came in contact with a different class of people and awakened in them an interest in its varied resources. Also there was a growth and change in the use of the reference department.

Another method of awakening interest in books other than fiction has been by the posters displayed near the main doors. These have been on various topics according to season and have been accompanied by a display of books on the same subject. The most attractive ones have been those on the holidays, the birthdays of famous people, the sports of the winter and summer, Safety First, House Designing and the Clean-up Campaign.

There has been a new kind of material to accompany these bulletins, the material of the picture and clipping file. The teachers have found the poetry and pictures most useful for entertainments and displays and the students find in the clippings, information that is of timely help in their debates. The file has been entirely subject headed and alphabeted and is being added to constantly. A special effort is being made to keep the Superior clippings up-to-date as there is no other material with which to answer the various queries as to the city's welfare.

One of the principle aims of the reference librarian this next year will be to co-operate with the teachers in extending the use of the library books among the school children. A little has already been done. At the beginning of the second half of the school year, we asked the High School teachers to inform us a short time in advance of the topics for debates, orations or themes. We were then able to prepare the material and keep it on hand.

Another method was lending a small collection to the teachers either in her charge or that of the school librarian. This was done

in the case of a literature course and a music course.

Since the burning of the Normal School special shelves have been given over to the Normal School teachers. The books are selected by the teachers, marked "Reserve" and retained in the library for class use. Our aim is now to reach all the teachers who need books outside the ordinary textbooks in order to help them with their class work and not allow one or two pupils to have the advantage.

There is a growing demand for magazines to take home. We have now five that are duplicated at the main library for circulation. These together with the next-to-the-last issue of the other popular magazines are reinforced, front and back covers, have a pocket card and dating-slip like the books and are put out on the magazine stand in a conspicuous place. They circulate for one week and have become as popular as the new books.

BINDING DEPARTMENT.

The bindery statistics for 1913-1914 are:

Books	bound	657
Magazines	"	77
Superior Telegram	"	4

There were also 25 periodical covers that were recovered as that was found to be just as satisfactory as new covers and much less expensive.

MENDING DEPARTMENT.

Books	mended	1735
Increase over 1912-1913		525

CHILDREN'S ROOM

At the close of the year 1913-1914, we find the total juvenile circulation to be 45447, of which 26256 books were circulated from the Main Children's Room, 3279 (juvenile and adult) from the Matt Carpenter Branch and 12087 from the schools, which indicates a total increase of 9645.

While these figures may not show as large an increase in all the juvenile departments as was to be hoped for, there are other less obvious perhaps, but equally important indications of an encouraging year. For instance, a much smaller number of books are being discarded each month as the children are learning the lesson of having clean hands and of respecting public property. Also the problem of discipline is less serious than at the beginning of the winter. But the personal response on the part of the young people is perhaps the most cause for an optimistic view of the future. The realization of the fact that the librarian at the desk is the friend of each child is being proven every day by the requests for advice and help from puzzled children and often from more puzzled parents. In answer to these latter requests several lists have been sent to parents who wish their boys and girls to use for a few years longer the intermediate books. These personal requests are encouraged in every way and special care and attention are given each one.

Another object toward which our particular energies have been directed is the book collection—to secure, instead of an unbalanced collection a sufficient supply of the standards in each class, with a practical number of copies of the newer books, and without the necessary over-stocking of one class to the total depletion of another. One addition to the reference collection from which the teachers as well as the librarians, if not the children, have reaped much benefit

in the ten volume set, "Journeys through Bookland." Another new set to be added later will prove equally useful.

A hearty response on the part of the children has met the efforts of the children's librarian in the weekly story hour. The children have shown an appreciation of the stories told them and of the fact that the success of the story hour depends in large measure upon themselves. This is in marked contrast to the disorganization which was one inevitable result of the absence of a children's librarian during the preceeding year.

An attempt was made at the beginning of the year to follow a graded outline for the stories, but at the outset, the ignorance on the part of the children of the simplest stories offered a hindrance to definitely graded work. Children from three to thirteen years old attend the story hour, and the task of story selection would have been a much more difficult one, had not the older as well as the younger children been ignorant of and therefor equally eager to hear many of the very easy classic stories. A pleasant change of program at the Friday story hour were several talks given to the boys and girls. These included a talk and pictures on "Norway" by the Rev. Mr. Lockrem; "Clubs and Camping Pictures" by Mr. H. F. Burt; "Playground and Garden Pictures" by Mr. Conrad; and "Our Birds," by Mr. T. J. McCarthy. The total attendance at this story hour since October was 3336.

In addition to the little children's story hour an effort will be made during the ensuing year at more extensive work in the way of boys' and girls' clubs. There are many opportunities for interesting work along those lines.

From time to time during the year, stories have been told and talks on various phases of library work with children have been given at schools and club meetings. Every such opportunity to tell of the possibilities of this department of library work is welcomed.

In addition to this publicity work, other work of a similar nature has been done in the library with Christmas book—exhibits, printed Christmas book-lists and several bulletins.

SCHOOLS.

The work for the year with the schools has proved very encouraging. Every effort at the extensive work along library lines in the schools has met with a spirit of hearty co-operation. One proof of this is shown in the following statistical report by schools for the year:

Schools	1911-1912	1912-1913	1913-1914
BRYANT	2520	2201	2467
COOPER	4239	2214	3371
DEWEY	1730	1768	1405
FRANKLIN	676	435	937
HOWE	1507	1489	1500
LINCOLN	1465	1194	1388
WEBSTER	1124	763	987
WIS. POINT	....	13	33
TOTAL	13261	10077	12087

The total increase in the school circulation for the year 1913-1914 over that of 1912-1913 is 1010. Approximately 2091 books were placed in the school during the two terms which means an average home circulation of five plus times per book. Aside from the fact that in the lower grades the books are used in the school

room many more times than count is made of, it still remains that in the upper grades the books are used, on an average, only five plus times where they should be used twenty times. There s still work to be done by the teachers and with the teachers to bring the circulation up to the figure it should reach.

The increase for the year is due partly to the number of new copies and new books placed in the School Duplicate Collection, the entire book appropriation for the juvenile department during the months of July and August being spent for this collection.

An effort was made to visit each school at least three times during the year, but this was impossible in every case. Each school was visited however, in January for the purpose of counting the circulation, of ascertaining the conditions of the bookstand for making exchanges where desired. In the various rooms, unless it was not convenient for the teacher, stories were told or brief talks were given on the use of the library and its books.

MATT CARPENTER

The report for the year's work at the Matt Carpenter Branch shows a decrease in circulation of 655, the total circulation being 3279. This decrease, while disappointing, need not be distressing however, for the use of books among the younger children, who are indeed the foundation of all future work, is on the increase constantly; new borrowers are being added from among the younger children and the book circulation among those in the first to fifth grades has increased over that of last year. The use of the library by the upper grade children has decreased to such an extent, however, that the total is lowered.

Primarily for the purpose of stimulating the interest in the collection of books for older children, a "Robin Hood Cycle" story hour was conducted during the winter, in addition to the regular Wednesday afternoon little children's story hour. The attendance at this cycle story far exceeded all dreams, the average attendance being about 184, with a total of 1100, but the results were not so lasting as could have been hoped for. The counter attractions of the swimming-pool and the basket-ball games soon lured the older pupils from the library room. We hope, however, by presistant effort to prove to these boys and girls that they may very profitably make use of both the library and the swimming-pool.

The attendance at the little children's story hour was so numerous as to practically necessitate in the future a division into two groups for its most successful continuation. The total attendance for the year was 3121.

With this story hour attendance and the subsequent circulation of books, there were oftentimes, empty book cases; recently, however, the emptiness has been because the children were adequately supplied with books and not because of the disheartning lack of books as formrly. With promise of a few shelves for displaying the books, we expect next year to register an increase rather than a decrease.

REGISTRATION

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
No. of borrowers at beginning of year	5071	4912	9983
No. new borrowers during year	1302	831	2133
No. of re-registrations	34	2	36
No. withdrawn	45	2	47
Total borrowers at end of year	6047	5743	12105

WITHDRAWALS

Total number of books withdrawn is.....1555

This is about an average number for a year.

STATIONS

The station statistics show that there has been an increase in the circulation at A and at Yale Laundry, while B, C and Carpenter School have slightly decreased. In regard to the decrease at B and C we have noticed that the people from those communities seldom telephone their requests to have them filled at the station but come directly to the Main Library.

At A, the non-fiction circulation was very encouraging and proved time and again that newspaper and special list advertising is well worth while. Printed lists were sent to the stations and either posted or distributed but nothing more was done in the way of station publicity.

The station at Allouez was discontinued in November as, Miss Hertlein, who has had charge of it since its removal from the Allouez Drug Store, expressed herself as unable to give it the necessary attention. The newly appointed postmaster at Itasca has agreed to assume charge and it is hoped that a good patronage will be secured because of the distance from the Main Library.

With the advent of a new assistant, publicity work will be enlarged upon in the way of a Library Day at each station when books and bulletins will be put on display.

CIRCULATION.

We are glad to note that our statistics show an increase in the circulation of the Main Library of 10859 over that of the previous year and that 11332 more non-fiction books were issued this year.

This increase may be partly ascribed to constant efforts on the part of the library to prove its good will toward the public. The Normal School fire brought us also in contact with people who had never before made use of the library. It is hoped that we will soon have the co-operation of all the teachers of all the schools.

The foreign collections are in great demand, there being constant complaint in this department of the lack of books. Despite the shortage, the circulation has slightly increased and seldom a day goes by without a foreigner registering. To our Norwegian, Swedish and German books, there has been added this spring, Finnish and Yiddish collections. Circulation of German books while showing an increase for the year, has been decreasing in the past few months, owing to the small number of books in the collection.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special acknowledgement is made to the city newspapers for their courtesy in printing lists of books and all general library notices.

The librarian extends sincere expressions of gratitude for herself and the members of the staff to the Directors for their co-operation in making this, it is hoped, a year of successful service to the people of Superior.

Respectfully submitted,

BLANCH L. UNTERKIRCHER,

Librarian.

APPENDIX "A"

NUMBER OF ACCESSIONED BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

	Adult	Ref.	Leger Col.	Juvenile	Juv. Ref.	School	Tota
Gener'l works	157	201	63	...	23	...	444
Periodicals ..	132	2,198	....	15	99	....	2,444
Philosophy ..	456	....	....	9	...	.. 1	466
Religion	686	23	8	59	6	28	810
Sociology & ..	....	....	....	....	...	....	....
Fairy tales	1,660	126	545	514	7	230	3.082
Philology ...	98	34	....	....	...	....	132
Nat'l science	584	20	53	256	8	127	1,048
Useful arts...	1,225	30	140	156	1	62	1,614
Fine arts....	1,102	39	22	201	3	30	1,397
Literature ..	1,668	146	4	446	22	114	2,400
History	1,311	45	191	315	2	146	2,010
Travel	905	30	70	265	11	147	1,428
Biography ...	1,234	100	36	255	2	112	1,739
Fiction	4,931	....	1	1,664	2	886	7,484
German	13	....	....	....	...	....	13
Norwegian ...	201	....	....	....	...	....	201
Swedish	212	....	....	....	...	....	212
Total ...	16,575	2,992	1,133	4,155	186	1,883	26,924

APPENDIX "B"

CLASSIFIED LIST OF BOOKS ADDED TO THE LIBRARY

	Adult	Ref.	Leger Col.	Juvenile	Juv. Ref.	School	Total
General works	3	21	..	....	..	...	24
Periodicals	5	50	..	....	9	...	64
Philosophy	31	..	..	1	..	...	32
Religion	46	2	..	18	..	2	68
Sociology &	....	..	..	....	..	...	....
Fairy tales	120	29	9	237	2	58	455
Philology	11	3	..	....	..	...	14
Nat'l science	42	..	1	55	1	11	110
Useful arts	105	8	1	32	..	7	153
Fine arts	114	7	..	35	..	11	167
Literature	65	2	..	241	13	8	329
History	83	3	10	92	..	17	205
Travel	47	2	2	47	..	18	116
Biography	51	3	..	45	..	13	112
Fiction	616	..	..	413	..	103	1,132
Norwegian	65	..	..	....	..	...	65
Swedish	2	..	..	....	..	...	2
Total	1,406	130	23	1,216	25	248	3,048

APPENDIX "C"

	Main Library		Stations		Schools	Carpenter		Total
	Ad.	Juv.	Ad.	Juv.	Juv.	Ad.	Juv.	
Gen. works	45	.....	.....	....	.....	...	....	45
Periodicals	274	131	.....	....	.....	...	....	405
Philosophy	840	31	2	....	9	...	7	889
Religion	653	215	.....	3	147	...	16	1,034
Soc. & Fairy Tales	2,073	4,513	22	11	2,209	...	819	9,647
Philology	203	.....	1	2	50	...	1	257
Natural science.	745	636	11	16	776	...	96	2,280
Useful arts	1,815	394	51	8	349	...	41	2,658
Fine Arts	1,864	925	28	1	242	...	32	3,092
Literature	2,430	2,211	50	7	520	...	981	6,199
History	1,088	1,550	21	3	1,039	...	135	3,836
Travel	899	838	128	14	807	...	95	2,781
Biography	764	854	54	5	577	...	95	2,319
Fiction	29,410	13,982	15,722	3,744	5,362	152	809	69,181
Norwegian	1,928	.....	2	....	.....	...	....	1,930
Swedish	532	.....	.....	....	.....	...	....	532
German	80	.....	.....	....	.....	...	....	80
Finnish	2	.....	.....	....	.....	...	....	2
Yiddish	15	.....	.....	....	.....	...	....	15
Current Periodicals	2,056	15	923	2	.....	...	....	2,996
Clippings	204	.....	.....	....	.....	...	....	204
Pictures	4,826	.....	.....	....	.....	...	....	4,826
Pamphlets	148	.....	.....	....	.....	...	....	148
Total	52,894	26,265	17,015	3,816	12,087	152	3,127	115,356

The small collection of foreign books was supplemented by traveling libraries from the Wisconsin Free Library Commission.

APPENDIX "D"

STATION CIRCULATION

	A	B	C	D	Yale	Carpenter	Total
Gen'l works ...	....	....	....	...	..	....	.....
Periodicals	....	....	....	...	..	....	.....
Philosophy ...	2	....	....	...	..	....	2
	....	....	....	...	..	*7	*7
Religion	....	.....	....	....	..	.....	....
	*3	....	....	...	..	*16	*19
Sociology.....	22	....	....	...	..	....	22
and Fairy tales	*11	....	....	...	..	*819	*830
Philology	1	....	....	...	..	....	1
	*2	....	....	...	..	*1	*3
Nat'l science ...	11	....	....	...	..	....	11
	*16	....	....	...	..	*96	*112
Useful arts	41	....	7	3	..	....	51
	*8	....	....	...	..	*41	*49
Fine arts	25	....	3	...	..	....	28
	....	....	*1	...	..	*32	*33
Literature	46	11	3	...	..	....	50
	*2	....	*5	...	..	*981	*988
History	18	....	3	...	..	....	21
	*3	....	....	...	..	*135	*138
Travel	122	3	2	1	..	....	128
	*14	....	....	...	..	*95	*109
Biography	54	....	....	...	..	....	54
	*5	....	....	...	..	*95	*100
Fiction	7,166	6,603	1,840	113	86	152	15,960
	*1,353	*1,812	*567	*12	..	*809	*4553
Norwegian	2	....	....	...	..	....	2
Cur. period ...	541	....	379	3	..	....	923
	*2	....	....	...	..	....	*2
Total	8,051	6,607	2,237	120	86	152	17,253
	*1,419	*1,812	*573	*12	..	*3,127	*6,943
Total of both ...	9,470	8,419	2,810	132	86	3.279	24,196

* Juvenile Department